THE MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF 1907.

GENERAL SUBJECTS.

LEGISLATION.

(Nos. 1 to 11.)

SUBJECT No. 1.

Election of members to the Legislative Council.

(1) Messrs. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore City Municipality; V. Raghavachar, Nanjangud Taluk; S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., Shimoga Municipality; M. S. Ramachar and C. B. Gopal Rao, Kolar Municipality.

(2) Messrs. Narasimha Iyengar, Sagar Taluk; Nanjunda Setty, Seringapatam Municipality; V. Rangaswami Iyengar and K. Krishnachar, Seringapatam Taluk.

(3) Mr. G. Srinivasa Rao, T.-Narsipur Taluk.

(4) Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk.

(1) The Representative Assembly may be given the privilege of electing a few members to the Legislative Council.

(2) A non-official member may be nominated from each district to the Legislative Council.

(3) Persons from each District Board may be elected as members of the Legislative Council.

(4) The concession to be given to the Legislative Council should not encroach upon the rights of the Representative Assembly.

Summary of discussion.—Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—An elective system has been in vogue in Mysore for the past 12 years. We are electing members to the Municipal and District Boards. As we are thus already accustomed to the elective system, there cannot be much difficulty in introducing it for the selection of members for the Legislative Council. About one-third of the number may be elected by the Representative Assembly.

Mr. Raghavachar said that it was necessary that the Representative Assembly should be empowered to elect a few members, and that Government should lay down the qualifications of both the electors and the elected. But this, he said, could be best done only after the number of members that could possibly be elected for the Legislative Council was fixed.

The Dewan replied that about two or three members might perhaps be returned by election, but even then, what was more important was the principle of election rather than the number elected, and suggested that the qualifications required for the electors and the elected might be considered by the Representatives themselves and their views submitted before the close of the session.

Mr. Raghavachar said that the Government might themselves fix the requisite qualifications rather than leave the task to the people.

Mr. Ramachar said that the number of members to be elected as specified by the Dewan was too small and asked that it might be increased.

The Dewan replied that the question of number might be considered after the views of the Assembly as to the qualifications of the electors and the elected were submitted to Government.

Mr. Srinivasa Rao of Chikmagalur.—Government have already admitted that the Representative Assembly is a body corporate, finding a place in the scheme of Government, and that the powers of interpellation and of budget discussion need not be given to the Legislative Council, as they are already exercised by the Representative Assembly, for all of which the Representatives cannot be too grateful. But the newspaper criticisms in and out of Mysore suggesting that the powers of interpellation and budget discussion should be given to the Legislative Council, and also a recent speech of one of the non-official members of the Legislative Council, put the Representatives in some fear especially as the Dewan has said, "A Legislative Council has been formed and the other privileges will follow."

So far back as 1892-93 the Representatives prayed that the budget might be discussed in the Representative Assembly. But the Government replied that "this cannot be done as the Representative Assembly does not meet at the time when the estimates have to be reviewed and passed." As to powers of interpellation the Government said "the members have already been afforded every reasonable opportunity to make themselves acquainted with matters of public interest, . . . and regarding general and local wants of a public character." While such is the case, it does not seem necessary that the powers of interpellation should be given to the Legislative Council while there is already the Representative Assembly exercising the same powers. Sidgwick and Bastable [extracts from whose books were read] are authorities to show that legislative measures should be considered only by lawyers, and that the other powers (interpellation and budget discussion) should vest in the representatives of the people. Hence, my contention is that the two powers referred to above should not be given to the Legislative Council to the prejudice of the Representative Assembly.

The Dewan replied that he had made himself clear on the point in his Address to the Legislative Council, *viz.*, that by establishing a Legislative Council, no diminution of the powers of the Representative Assembly was intended.

Mr. Subbanna, Bangalore Law Association, proposed that the Legislative Council might be engrafted on the Representative Assembly and that the members of the latter might be allowed to watch the proceedings of the former and take part in their deliberations, though not allowed to vote.

Mr. Balakrishna Rao observed that in that case the constitution of the Assembly would have to be changed.

Mr. Subbanna replied that it would be so, but there would be a great advantage in that, the members of the Representative Assembly and of the Legislative Council would come in closer contact with each other and the whole country would be benefited, since the members of the Representative Assembly were the elected representatives of the people.

The Dewan asked Mr. Subbanna to formulate his proposals in writing and submit them to the Assembly before the close of the Session.

Mr. Subbanna then asked whether there would be scope for all proposed legislative measures being brought before the Representative Assembly for discussion.

Mr. Ramachar represented that the Representative Assembly members might be asked to give their opinion on such measures.

The Officiating Secretary to Government explained that all bills were published in the *Mysore Gazette* before they were passed into law and any one might criticise them, and such criticisms would be duly considered by Government.

The Dewan enquired if it was meant that all legislative measures should be discussed in the Representative Assembly before they were submitted for the sanction of His Highness the Maharaja.

Mr. Balakrishna Rao replied that it amounted to that.

Mr. Subbanna then said that if that was not feasible, some sort of connection as that suggested by him might be established.

Further discussion was postponed pending the detailed proposals of Mr. Subbanna.

The next day (22-10-1907), Mr. Subbanna said that a meeting of the Representative Assembly members had been called the previous evening to discuss and formulate proposals regarding the connection that should be established between the Legislative Council and the Representative

Assembly. A copy of the Resolutions therein passed was submitted by him. He said:—

"Before the regular work of this day commences I beg permission to mention that there was a meeting of almost all the members of the Representative Assembly in this hall yesterday evening to consider and formulate a way in which some definite connection can be established between the Legislative Council and the Representative Assembly; and the meeting unanimously came to certain conclusions which I am asked to place respectfully at the feet of the Government for its benevolent consideration.

"The members of this Assembly are fully aware of the importance and the difficulties of the subject, and after careful consideration they think that all that they can now pray for without altering the constitution of either body to any large extent is an opportunity to request that the Legislative Council may be pleased to review its decision where it does not agree with the wishes of the Representative Assembly. With this view, Resolutions were passed to the following effect:—

"(1) That the Government will be pleased to give the Representative Assembly an opportunity of expressing their opinion on any legislative measure that is passed by the Legislative Council, before it becomes law, and that, if the opinion of the Representative Assembly be at variance in whole or in part with that of the Legislative Council, this body may be requested to reconsider the measure in the light of the suggestions of the Assembly.

"(2) That the decision of the Legislative Council thereafter be submitted to His Highness the Maharaja with the suggestions of the Representative Assembly in case the latter differ from the final decision of the Council.

"(3) That a meeting of the members of the Representative Assembly may be convened at such intervals as may be convenient for the above purpose."

Mr. Annaiya Pandit said that the Representative Assembly came into existence immediately after the Rendition; that an Assembly of such long standing, which was an object lesson to other countries, should not be prejudicially affected by the institution of the Legislative Council. The members of the Representative Assembly were elected by the people and it was not desirable that the Assembly should elect members to the Legislative Council, as thereby the Assembly would be bound by the opinions of its elected members and would be debarred from expressing any further opinions about legislative measures. The Government could very well nominate the members themselves. Consideration of legislative questions should be left to

lawyers, and the Legislative Council should only be a help to the Representative Assembly and should not encroach upon the rights of the Representative Assembly. As for the resolution that Representative Assembly meetings should, if need be, be convened more than once, he said that that was impossible, as in practice meeting once a year itself was inconvenient to many. But, he said, if Government wished that the Representative Assembly should meet more than once, he had no objection to that course being adopted.

Mr. Raghavachar represented that, from what Mr. Anniah Pandit said, he gathered that members for the Legislative Council need not be elected by the Representative Assembly, and the Representative Assembly members might leave the discussion of Legislative measures to lawyers. But he thought that that was not the right view. During the deliberations of the Legislative Council, it would be better if the wants and wishes of the people were represented, so that the Council might be in possession of all the neccessary facts before a law was passed. Two or three members from the Representative Assembly would be sent to the Legislative Council to take part in its deliberations and nothing more was needed. Mr. Subbanna had said that the measures would be discussed in the Legislative Council and the Select Committee and then they would be discussed again in the Representative Assembly before they were submitted to His Highness for sanction. If this should be the case, things would be done in an inverse order and the measures would have to pass through three different stages. More than all, if every clause was to be discussed in a large assembly like the Representative Assembly, it would be extremely difficult for the work of legislation to go on. As an alternative he suggested that a member might be selected from each district for the Legislative Council. Again, as regards the proposed connection between the Legislative Council and the Representative Assembly he said that the object of the people would be gained if people who had grievances could go and sit at the deliberations of the Legislative Council and give expression to them. This course was not prohibited by the Government Order instituting the Legislative Council. The meetings of the Legislative Council were held about thrice a year, while the Representative Assembly met only once a year. And if all the members were called upon to attend more than once, it would cause considerable inconvenience and trouble. Thus, he said, he was strongly opposed to the proposals made by Mr. Subbanna as being impracticable, and at the same time he did not agree with Mr. Annaiya Pandit's views.

Mr. Ramachar said that he agreed in the proposals made by Mr. Subbanna. The discussions of the Legislative Council were not generally known to the members of the Representative Assembly, and if these were placed before the Representative Assembly there would be a better understanding between the two bodies and a greater confidence in the institutions would result in the minds of the people generally. If this was conceded by Government, the question of the number of elected members to the Legislative Council from the Representative Assembly could be easily settled afterwards. Moreover, as the number of such members returned to the Legislative Council would be necessarily small, the proposed connection between the two bodies would be very beneficial. It was, however, desirable that the Representative Assembly should elect some members, many or few, to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Sondekoppa Dasappa represented that as the meeting of the Assembly would be held either in Mysore or Bangalore, and as due notice of the same would be given beforehand, much of the alleged inconvenience to members would be obviated; and Government could have the opinion of the Representative Assembly side by side with that of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Srinivasa Rao urged that though it was only the lawyers that were competent to undertake legislation, yet it was necessary that the raiyats should know the probable good or evil likely to result from the measures proposed to be passed by the Legislative Council. He said that the Representative Assembly members would not press for voting at the Council, but the right of the raiyats to know the probable results of the measures should be established. The inconvenience to members need not be considered. When the Representative Assembly was first started by Dewan Rangacharlu, all people thought that the raiyats would not attend the meeting. But the result proved otherwise. So, if the proposals now brought forward were accepted, it would be easy to see how they worked and whether there would really be any inconvenience to members. The proposals were based on the practice in other countries and were not impracticable. The Representative Assembly did not want to consider bills in detail but wanted to state general views on bills for consideration by the Legislative Council. A connection between the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council was good.

Mr. Rasool Khan represented that one of the members that would be elected from the Representative Assembly should be a Mahomedan as there were a good many Mahomedans among the raiyat population.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya said that there might be an opinion that by instituting a connection between the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council, the powers of the latter would be encroached upon by the former. But that was really not the case. The object of such a connection was only to acquaint the Legislative Council with the grievances of the people. The Representative Assembly did not want to exercise any control over the Legislative Council. It wanted only an opportunity to express its views for the consideration of the Legislative Council.

The Dewan said that this question was connected with another, *viz.*, whether when the opinion of the Representative Assembly was ascertained as suggested, it was necessary for the Representative Assembly to elect members to the Legislative Council, and asked for the views of the Assembly on that point.

Mr. Srinivasa Rao said that the Representative Assembly would not press the question of election to the Legislative Council in that case, but that he would leave the decision to Government, and suggested that the power of electing members to the Legislative Council might be given to the country at large.

Mr. Vasudeva Rao said that the question was considered at the meeting held the previous day and that it was decided that if legislative measures were generally considered by the Representative Assembly it would not be necessary for the Representative Assembly to elect members to the Legislative Council, and that if the latter power was given, the former was not necessary.

Mr. Ramaswami Iyengar said that the Representative Assembly members should be given an opportunity of expressing their grievances before the Legislative Council.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya also said that if the Assembly was allowed to express a general opinion on legislative measures, powers of election need not be given.

Mr. Balakrishna Rao said that the two questions were distinct. Even if the measures of the Legislative Council were brought before the Representative Assembly, it did not follow that the Representative Assembly should not return members to the Legislative Council. In the last meeting the question was not finally decided and was left quite open.

Mr. Ramachar said that the members would further consider the matter and that he would submit a memo containing a practical scheme for consideration.

On the 26th October 1907, after the other subjects had been discussed and disposed of, the Dewan said :—

We have not come to any decision till now as regards the question of electing members to the Legislative Council from the Representative Assembly. The Assembly has not been able to agree upon a scheme under which the opinion of the Representative Assembly may be obtained on the measures passed by the Legislative Council. Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya first suggested that the Assembly might be given the power of electing a few members to the Legislative Council. This was not accepted by the other members and an alternative scheme was then proposed by Mr. Subbanna. As opinion was divided in regard to this also, Mr. Ramachar undertook to draw up another scheme. But no scheme has been brought forward and it is understood that he has left the place. As the proposition is now before you, I wish to have your opinion.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—I withdraw my proposition in favour of Mr. Subbanna's. We request that an opportunity may be given to us to express our opinion on measures passed by the Legislative Council.

Dewan.—The question is whether the Assembly wishes to have the right of electing members to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mr. Annaiya Pandit and some others said that the Representative Assembly did not ask for that right provided an oportunity was given to the members to express their opinion on bills passed by the Legislative Council.

Mr. Narasinga Rao spoke against this view and stated that the Representative Assembly should have the privilege of election, and was supported by Messrs. Narasimhaiya, V. Raghavachar, Rangaswami Iyengar and T. S. Krishna Rao.

A large number of members, however, appeared to be in favour of Mr. Subbanna's proposals.

The Dewan then turned to subject 1 (2) and asked the opinion of the members present on the subject of the nomination of a non-official member from each district to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Rangasamiengar, Seringapatam, said that the Representative Assembly members should elect a member to the Legislative Council from each district.

No other member was in favour of this proposal.

Subject 1 (3), election of members from each District Board to the Legislative Council, was next taken up, and

Messrs. Raghavachar and Narasimhaiya expressed themselves in favour of the proposal.

The Dewan then returned to subject 1 (1) and enquired whether it was their intention that before measures passed by the Legislative Council were submitted to His Highness the Maharaja for approval, the opinion of the Representative Assembly should be taken.

Several of the members replied in the affirmative.

Dewan.—Is it meant that the bills passed by the Legislative Council should be kept pending till the Assembly meets and gives an opinion? The Assembly meets only once a year, during the Dasara.

Mr. Appajiah.—The Assembly may be asked to meet once in six months in order to offer its views on the measures passed by the Legislative Council. It may meet once in Bangalore and a quorum may be fixed. There is no harm if there is a little delay in bringing laws into force.

Mr. Dasappa.—The Assembly may meet as often as may be necessary. As soon as measures are passed by the Legislative Council, notice may be given to the members of the Assembly.

Mr. Annaiya Pandit.—The Assembly may be summoned to attend the meetings of the Legislative Council when measures are taken up for consideration. Such of the members as can, will attend and express their opinions. This will obviate delay.

Dewan.—You mean to say that notice of meetings of the Legislative Council should be given to members of the Representative Assembly, and that the latter should be permitted to attend and speak at the meeting.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—Though all the members are not in a position to take part in the framing of legislative measures, they can lay the grievances of the people before the Council. On notice being given as suggested by Mr. Annaiya Pandit, such of them as can, will attend and represent their views. We only want such a chance to be given to us.

Dewan.—Bills which are ripe for consideration in the Legislative Council are published 15 or 20 days before the meeting. Not only the Representative Assembly members but all people can have a say on them. This is an advantage common to all and is meant to elicit public opinion. Then again, these bills are referred to a Select Committee for consideration. Their reports and the bills as amended by them are also published before final consideration by the Legislative Council. When the representation of

certain communities and interests in the Council was urged it was pointed out that it was not necessary that any one might bring his representation to the notice of the Council, and that the Select Committees could ascertain the views of particular sections and interests affected by proposed legislation.

Mr. Rangiengar explained that under the prescribed procedure a bill would take about six months or more to pass through the Council, that this period was sufficient for the views of any person or body of persons being placed before the Council, and that the Select Committees had the power to take the opinions of persons interested in any measure.

Mr. Annaiya Pandit thereupon withdrew his previous remarks.

The Dewan then took the sense of the Assembly on Mr. Appajaiya's proposal that the Representative Assembly should meet once in six months to consider and express their opinions on measures passed by the Legislative Council. About twenty members were understood to be in favour of the proposal.

Assuming that measures passed by the Legislative Council were to be referred to the Representative Assembly for opinion, the Dewan enquired what should be done if there was a difference of opinion between these two bodies.

Mr. Appajaiya.—In that event, the measure should be sent back to the Legislative Council for reconsideration and if the latter should not accept the views of the Representative Assembly the matter should be submitted to His Highness for final decision.

The Dewan enquired whether the members understood the ultimate effect of this proposal if carried out.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya said that the effect would be that the members would have an opportunity of expressing their views on legislative measures and nothing more.

The Dewan said that the effect of the proposed course would be to constitute the Assembly into an upper chamber.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya said that it was not so, that the order constituting the Representative Assembly laid down that the object was to ascertain the views of the people on measures contemplated by Government and that it was in pursuance of the same policy that the Assembly now asked for its views on legislative measures being ascertained and placed before the Legislative Council for reconsideration of its bills, if necessary. He quoted the substance of certain remarks of Dewan Rangacharlu in support of his view.

The Dewan stated that nobody questioned what Mr. Rangacharlu had said about the object of constituting the Representative Assembly and that there was not the least idea of curtailing the privileges of the Assembly or diminishing its usefulness. He enquired why, if Mr. Rangacharlu's intention was that legislative measures should be brought before the Assembly, this was not done at any time during the last 25 years. Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya stated that this was because the members of the Assembly could lay their grievances about legislative measures before Government at the meetings of the Assembly.

Dewan.—The same facilities are still open to you. The difference between the former legislative machinery and the present Legislative Council is that in the latter there are non-official members with power to vote, and this is in itself a great advance. The privileges the members of the Assembly have are to meet here as the elected representatives of the people and express their grievances and wants and wishes for the consideration of Government. The Assembly has no power of voting yet.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—You have been giving us that power by taking the sense of the Assembly on various questions.

Dewan.—But that cannot be taken as a precedent and as conferring on you any right to vote on questions. I do not say that you may not get such a power in course of time but at present you have not got it. I am anxious to improve the status and usefulness of the Assembly.

Coming to the next point in the proposal under discussion, what should be the quorum for a meeting of the Assembly to consider Legislative Measures, and are we to accept the opinion of a majority or only the unanimous opinion of the members ?

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—All that we require is that we should be heard about our grievances, by the general body of the Representative Assembly being consulted about legislative measures. District Boards and Municipalities may be empowered to elect non-official members to the Legislative Council.

Mr. T. Ananda Rao, First Councillor, enquired whether it would not be enough if the Representative Assembly could elect members to the Legislative Council so that their views could be expressed through that channel. Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya said that the views and actions of such members might not be accepted by the Assembly. Mr. Ananda Rao said that if the member did not represent the views of the Assembly properly it could refuse to re-elect him. He was of opinion that the election of

members for the Legislative Council by the Representative Assembly would provide a connecting link between the two bodies. Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya stated that no doubt most of the non-official members represented the views of the Assembly and some of them were members of the Assembly also. He said that the members urged the question because the collective opinion of the Assembly, if ascertained as proposed, would carry a certain amount of weight.

Dewan.—This will delay legislation considerably. More than this, other things have also to be considered. The object of His Highness and his Government in establishing a Legislative Council was to give the people greater facilities in the matter of legislation. The Representative Assembly was formed by an executive order of Government while the Legislative Council has been constituted by a legal enactment. To subject the measures passed by the latter to your scrutiny will give you the status in all respects of an upper chamber, a course which would be open to serious objection from several points of view.

Mr. Rangiengar (to the Assembly).—It is impossible that the Representative Assembly should be given the power of considering the measures passed by the Legislative Council before they are enacted as law. On the other hand, if, as the Dewan promised on various occasions, the elective system be introduced, we shall be very grateful. My fear is that if we press the present proposal, we may altogether lose the power of electing members for the Council.

Mr. Raghavachar.—I am of the same opinion.

Dewan.—The original proposition mooted in the Assembly having been abandoned and an alternative proposal being pressed by the members, it devolves on me to disabuse you of certain misconceptions on the subject and to tell you frankly what the Government think of the matter.

I think you are labouring under a misapprehension regarding what was said in connection with the subject, brought forward on the first day, of allowing the Representative Assembly to elect members to the newly constituted Legislative Council. The subject brought forward was :—

(i) The Representative Assembly may be given the privilege of electing a few members to the Legislative Council; the election of the members may take place at the session of the Assembly during the Dasara of every year, the term of office of such members being for one year only.

(ii) A non-official member may be nominated from each district to the Legislative Council.

(iii) Persons from each District Board may be elected as members of the Legislative Council.

(iv) The concession to be given to the Legislative Council should not encroach upon the claims and rights of the Representative Assembly.

This was ultimately withdrawn by the proposer when after discussion the sense of the meeting was to leave the Assembly as it was as they feared that by electing members to the Legislative Council the powers and privileges of the Assembly would be impaired. Thereupon some members suggested that legislative measures passed by the Legislative Council should, before submission to His Highness the Maharaja for approval, be submitted for the opinion of the Representative Assembly. No final decision was come to on this proposal as one of the members undertook to work out a scheme and bring it before the Assembly. Mr. Ramachar of Kolar is said to have done it, but he has left the place without bringing forward the scheme and getting it discussed. As this is the last day of our session this year, I may say once for all that the proposal is impracticable. By asking for legislative measures being placed before you before being finally passed, you are virtually asking that your body should be constituted into an upper house. This is a claim that I must frankly tell you is inadmissible. I may remind you that by our constitution His Highness the Maharaja is the sole repository of all power and responsibility in regard to all administrative and legislative measures. He is advised by a Dewan and Council who help him in carrying on the administration. Lately His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to constitute a Legislative Council and its powers and duties have been clearly laid down. The Representative Assembly was constituted so that "the objects which His Highness' Government has in view in the measures adopted for the administration of the Province should be better known and appreciated by the people for whose benefit they are intended."

I noticed that some misapprehensions prevailed regarding the budget being discussed in this Assembly. This was never intended to be done and His Highness' Government have no intention of placing the budget before the Assembly for discussion.

A statement of the receipts and expenditure for the year and of estimates for the future year have been placed before you year after year, and this will continue to be

done. The right of interpellation you have always had, and the only question is whether the practice of entering into a personal discussion with the Members of Government and Heads of Departments after a reply has been given to a question, should be permitted. Now that you have withdrawn your proposal to be allowed to elect members to the Legislative Council, the Government will have to consider whether the District Boards and Municipalities may not be given the powers of election. I was led to believe that the Representative Assembly was anxious to have the power of election to the Legislative Council and hence my referring to the subject in my Address. When the elective system is adopted for securing non-official members to the Legislative Council, it is as well that it should be known that, as at present advised, His Highness' Government think the electorate should not be constituted on a religious or racial basis. Class representation will be highly undesirable as no public good will be served by it, and on the contrary it will only accentuate the differences which are the bane of Indian society. There should be no distinction of caste, creed or race when representation of the people is concerned. I shall not dwell further on this subject, as there is plenty of time to consider it when Government decides upon introducing the elective principle in appointing members to the Legislative Council ?

The members had not apparently considered the question from this point of view, and when told that legislative measures could not be placed before the Assembly as a whole, Mr. Annaiya Pandit said that after what the Dewan had clearly explained, he was agreeable to power being given to the Assembly to elect members to the Legislative Council, and would prefer it to the other proposal.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya said that he would like to have powers of election given to the Assembly.

Messrs. Raghavachar and Narasinga Rao addressing the Assembly explained to the members the opinion of Government in regard to the proposed connection between the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council and urged the desirability of expressing themselves in favour of a system of electing some members of the Legislative Council from the Representative Assembly.

Mr. Vasudeva Rao, on the other hand, stated that as they met once a year anyhow they might make their representations as usual and that as there might be others who deserved to be elected besides themselves, the power of electing members might be left entirely to District Boards and Municipalities.

Mr. Narasinga Rao said that they need not presume that the power of election would be denied to District Boards thereby, and that they should not give up their privilege in respect of election.

Mr. Balakrishna Rao said that there should be some sort of connection between the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council. Mr. Vasudeva Rao had stated that District Boards might be given the power of electing members to the Legislative Council and that the Representative Assembly need not ask for such a power. It did not mean that by giving them the privilege, the District Boards were not to have a similar privilege. He expressed himself in favour of election.

The sense of the Assembly was taken and it was ascertained that 29 members were in favour of the Representative Assembly electing members to the Legislative Council and 13 against the proposal.

Reply of Government.—Government had been led to believe that a strong and unanimous feeling existed that the Representative Assembly should be given the privilege of electing members to the Legislative Council. The discussions held during the sittings of the Assembly, however, showed that there is no such clear and well ascertained opinion, and that, on the other hand, several of the members of the Assembly were not in favour of any members being elected by the Assembly to the Legislative Council. The proposal that the whole Assembly should be consulted on legislative measures was made by one of the members during the discussions, and this, though favoured by a large section of the Assembly, has been declared to be impracticable.

Government therefore decide to defer for the present the question of framing rules for the election of members to the Legislative Council by the Representative Assembly.

SUBJECT No. 2.

Revision of the Mines Regulation.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that the Mysore Mines Regulation may be revised.

The member stated that he had made enquiries in the matter but could not gather materials on which to base suggestions for revision. He therefore withdrew this subject.

SUBJECT No. 3.

Introduction of the Gambling Act.

Messrs. M. S. Ramachar, Kolar Municipality, and T. S. Krishna Rao, Mysore District Board.

Summary of discussion.—Mr. M. S. Ramachar.—I withdraw the subject as the new Police Bill makes sufficient provision regarding this matter.

Mr. T. S. Krishna Rao.—Till the Police Bill is passed into law, some rules may be framed under the Village Sanitation Regulation to prohibit gambling.

Reply of Government.—The Police Bill is already before the Legislative Council and will soon be passed.